

7:00 pm
Samuel G. Dodd Award
For
Distinguished Volunteer Service in Mansfield Natural Areas
2009 recipient –Amanda and Charlie Dainton

Parks Advisory Committee Meeting
March 3, 2010
MANSFIELD COMMUNITY CENTER CONFERENCE ROOM

7:30 pm
Chair: Sue Harrington
Secretary: Al Montoya

- I. Welcome
- II. Attendance
- III. Approval of Minutes
- IV. Continuing Business
 - 1. Presentation to the Town Council Update
- V. New Business
 - 1. Review of Eagleville Preserve management plan update
 - 2. Walking Weekend
- VI. Other
- VII. Items for next agenda
 - 1. Mt. Hope Park management plan
 - 2. Other
- VIII. Adjourn

**Town of Mansfield
Parks Advisory Committee
DRAFT - Minutes
February 3, 2010
Secretary – Al Montoya**

Present: Sue Harrington, Tom Harrington, Jennifer Kaufman, Al Montoya, and Ethan Avery

- I. The meeting was called to order at 7:35 P.M.
- II. The minutes for the January meeting were approved.
- III. Continuing Business
 - a. Discussion was held on the presentation to the Town Council. There was a joint meeting with the Open Space committee on January 25, 2010 where they revised the presentation. Jennifer reviewed the presentation with the group and changes were made to focus on the benefits of these committees. The presentation to the Town Council will be on March 8, 2010 and a dry run will be on February 16th.
 - b. The Dunhamtown Forest management plan has been turned into Jennifer and any further information regarding specifics needs to be turned in.
- IV. New Business
 - a. The committee reviewed the Schoolhouse Brook Park management plan and determined that it appeared to be a good plan and is in better shape than the other management plans. Tom requested that the geological aspects with the quartz be added to the plan. In addition it was noted that there is currently sign damage. Jennifer added that plant monitors had been inspecting the foliage in the area and trees have been cut for safety reasons. Sue stated that the general goal should be to monitor trails for erosion and keep management plans general, with more specifics being raised in the committee meetings. It was also noted that Schoolhouse Brook Park is the only park where mountain biking is allowed.
 - b. Walking weekend plans were discussed. The plans for the walking weekend activities are due March 5th. Various parks and activities were discussed. The plans will be finalized by the next meeting.
- V. Other Committee Minutes
 - a. Open Space meeting minutes were reviewed without comments.
- VI. Other
 - a. Jennifer informed the committee that there is some additional money available for the Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program. These resources could potentially be utilized for the Eagleville preserve. She also stated that there are very prescribed rules for how this money can be spent.
 - b. The NAV award will be presented at the next meeting on March 3rd therefore the meeting will start at 7:00.
- VII. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, Al Montoya, Secretary

**TOWN OF MANSFIELD
MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR PARK, RECREATION OR OPEN
SPACE PROPERTY**

Name of Property: Mt. Hope Park (formerly known as Hatch-Skinner)

Location of Property: Northeastern Mansfield off of Rt. 89

Size of Property: 35.33 acres

Public Access: Allowed, passive recreation

Property Classification: Purchased by Town October 29, 1999

**Agency that helped
prepare Management Plan:** Parks Advisory Committee

**Date Management Plan
was prepared:** March 8, 2000

Revision Dates: April 5, 2000
May 3, 2000
June 20, 2000

**Date of Town Council
approval:** January 21, 2001

Committee review date: PAC monitor annually
PAC review June 2, 2004

I. Inventory

A. Notable Physical Characteristics (topography, soils, watercourses, fields, vegetative cover, etc.)

1. Frontage on Mt. Hope River (1,500 ft.), which is designated by DEP as a major trout stream.
2. Man-made pond – approximately 3 acres of a 4 acre pond with earthen dam. The remaining 25% of the pond is privately owned.
3. South agricultural field
4. Meadow (north) partially wet
5. Swamp land – small inlet stream
6. Forested esker on east edge of pond
7. Upland forest on south side
8. Small white pine stand on west side along road
9. Brook entering near parking area
10. Limited presence of invasive species

B. Notable Special Features: (playgrounds, ballfields, cultural or historic features, structures, trails, views/vistas, endangered species, etc.)

1. Former tree nursery area
2. Foundation of dairy barn near road
3. Stone foundation in agricultural field
4. Benches along river and near pond with nice views
5. Stone wall along south boundary
6. Extensive trail system

C. Notable Concerns: (physical environment, cultural/historic environment, habitat, water quality, aesthetics, etc.)

1. Spill way area of pond subject to clogging – need maintenance and beaver dam prevention device

II. Goals/Recommended Management Actions: General and specific goals and management actions designed to promote protection of the environment, wildlife habitats, agricultural use, recreational use, site aesthetics, etc. As appropriate, include implementation schedule.

A. **Overall:** Maintain property in present condition for agricultural use, passive recreation, diverse natural habitats and scenic vistas.

B. **Goals/Management Actions Requiring Immediate Attention:**

1. Clean up: remove trash by north entrance
barbed wire at south end of trail across wetland
2. Remove: boardwalk across wetland and docks
invasive shrubs in north meadow and around pond
3. Build: foot bridges across streams near road and wetland areas
where trails are proposed
4. Repair: benches
5. Blaze trails both new and old
6. Install stepping stone across selected wet areas
7. Construct parking lot. PAC recommends a gravel surface and suggests a rustic stone wall barrier instead of the wooden guardrail if it is not too expensive
8. Monitor and remove debris at outlet of dam and install beaver controls
9. Mark boundary across pond
10. Install park sign and selected trail signs
11. Mark other property boundaries
12. Lease agricultural field

C. **Goals/Management Actions Requiring Short Term Attention (up to 5 years)**

1. Determine mowing schedule for meadow to maintain shrub habitat.
2. Create boat launch and provide fishing access
3. Define picnic area and boundaries for routine mowing
4. Determine continuing schedule to control invasive species

D. **Goals/Management Actions Requiring Longer Term Attention (5+ years)**

1. None required at this time

III: Identification of Management Plan Attachments

- A. Trail map
- B. Aerial photo
- C. Survey map
- D. Plan of Development property map
- E. Abutters List

IV. Recommended Schedules for:

- A. Monitoring site conditions: monthly (esp. outlet).
- B. Monitoring implementation of recommended management actions:
Annually
- C. Update Management Plan: Annually

V. Agency/Person(s) Recommended to:

- A. Monitor site conditions: Parks Advisory Committee
- B. Monitor implementation of recommended management actions: same as above
- C. Update Management Plan: same as above

VI. Other Comments

Lease agricultural field
Establish routine mowing schedule in meadow area and field near parking area

ATTACHMENT B

MT. HOPE RIVER

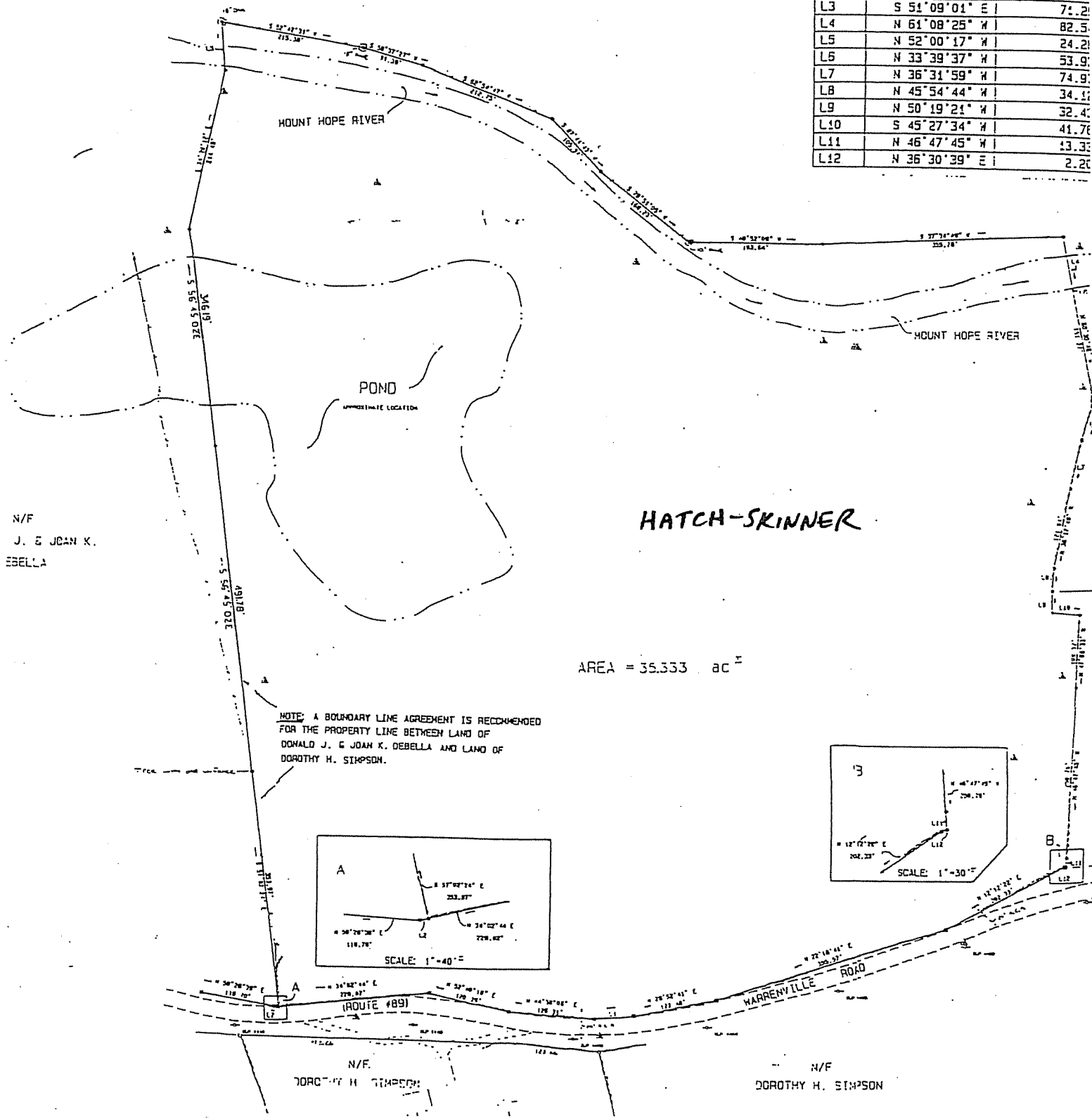
HATCH/SKINNER

ROUTE 89

ATTACHMENT C

LINE TABLE

LINE	BEARING	DISTANCE
L1	N 35° 54' 54" E	59.6
L2	N 34° 02' 44" E	6.7
L3	S 51° 09' 01" E	71.2
L4	N 61° 08' 25" W	82.5
L5	N 52° 00' 17" W	24.2
L6	N 33° 39' 37" W	53.9
L7	N 36° 31' 59" W	74.9
L8	N 45° 54' 44" W	34.1
L9	N 50° 19' 21" W	32.4
L10	S 45° 27' 34" W	41.7
L11	N 46° 47' 45" W	13.3
L12	N 36° 30' 39" E	2.2



ATTACHMENT D

MT. HOPE RIVER

HATCH/
SKINNER

ROUTE 89

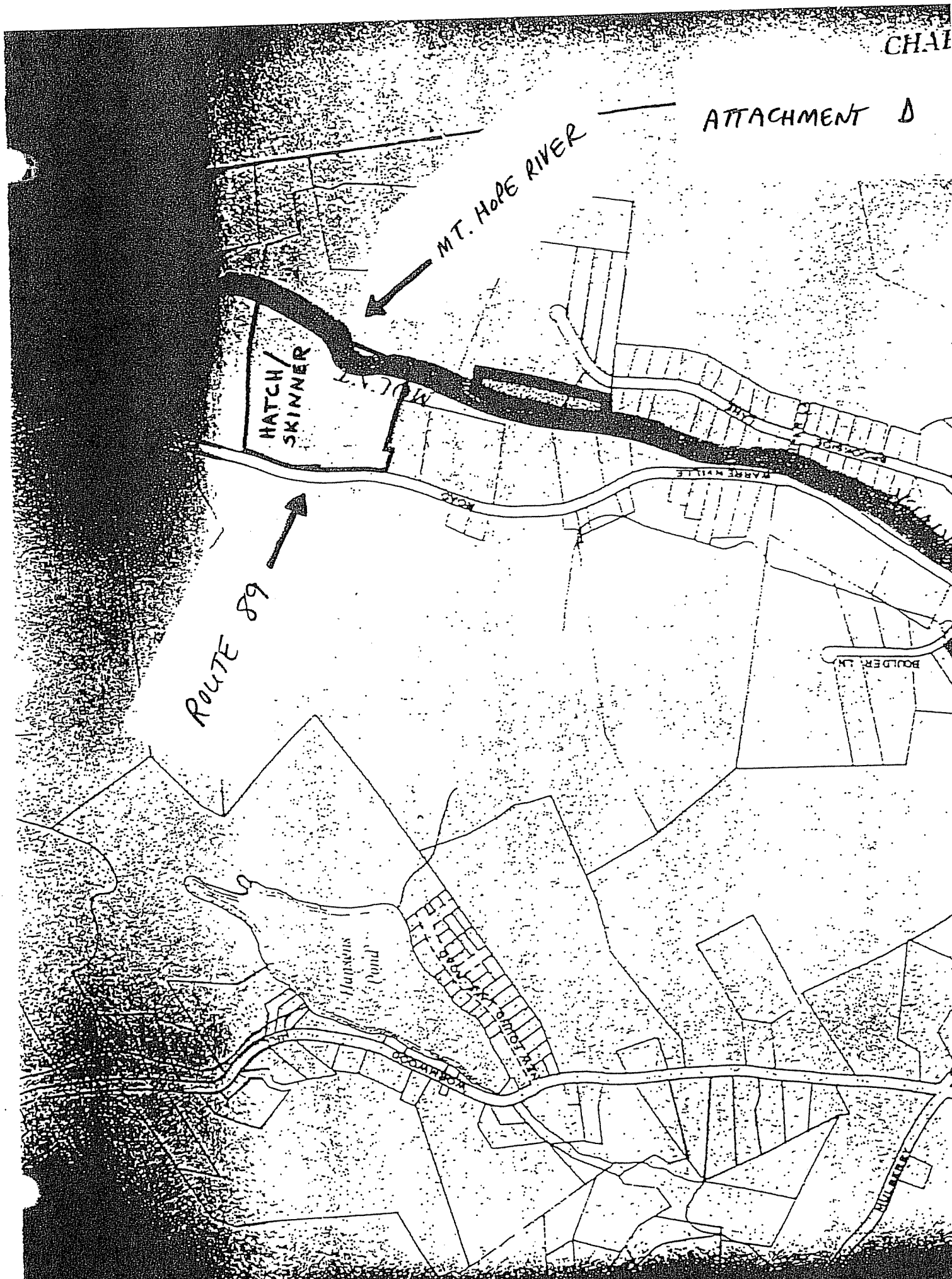
BOULDER LN

Hansen's Pond

W. L. LUND

W. L. LUND

W. L. LUND



Natural Areas Volunteers
Town of Mansfield CT, Parks & Recreation Department

PROPOSED RESTORATION MANAGEMENT SCHEDULE

Volunteer Work Dates
08/30/ 09/25 10/02
10/30 11/06 11/13

SITE MT.HOPE VOLUNTEER J. Haskell
YEAR 2004 Quarter (circle one) 1 2 3 4

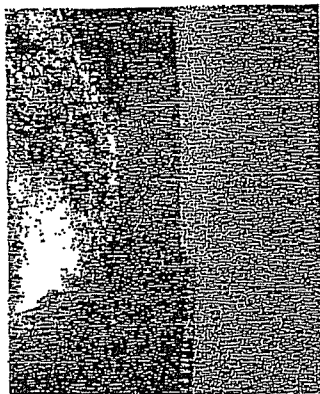
Other event 09/26/04

Map Symbol/ Plant Community	OBJECTIVE	METHOD	EXPECTED WORK DATE	DATE DONE
A. foundation area	remove invasives, fence, and barbed wire	brush clear, stump herbicide	08/30/04	done.
B. along road	litter pickup	bag litter	09/25/04	9-25
C. SE woods, off trail	dump pile removal	haul out trash	09/25/04	
D. shrub habitat	public education	FOMP program: Native Shrubs	09/26/04	9-26
E. parking area	remove invasives	brush clear, stump herbicide	10/2/04	10-2
A. foundation area	remove invasives	brush clear, stump herbicide	10/30/04	done.
F. northern meadow	remove invasives	brush clear, stump herbicide	11/06/04	11-6
G. ford	create loop trail	clear path over ford	11/13/04	done
H. southern meadow	remove trash, brush piles	DPW haul away	December	done
E. parking area	remove trash, brush piles	DPW haul away	December	done
H. southern meadow	keep open	DPW mow	December	done

We're concentrating Fall 2004 NAV workdays on this site because it is not heavily infested YET with invasives: LMP
PAC reviewed June 2, 2004.

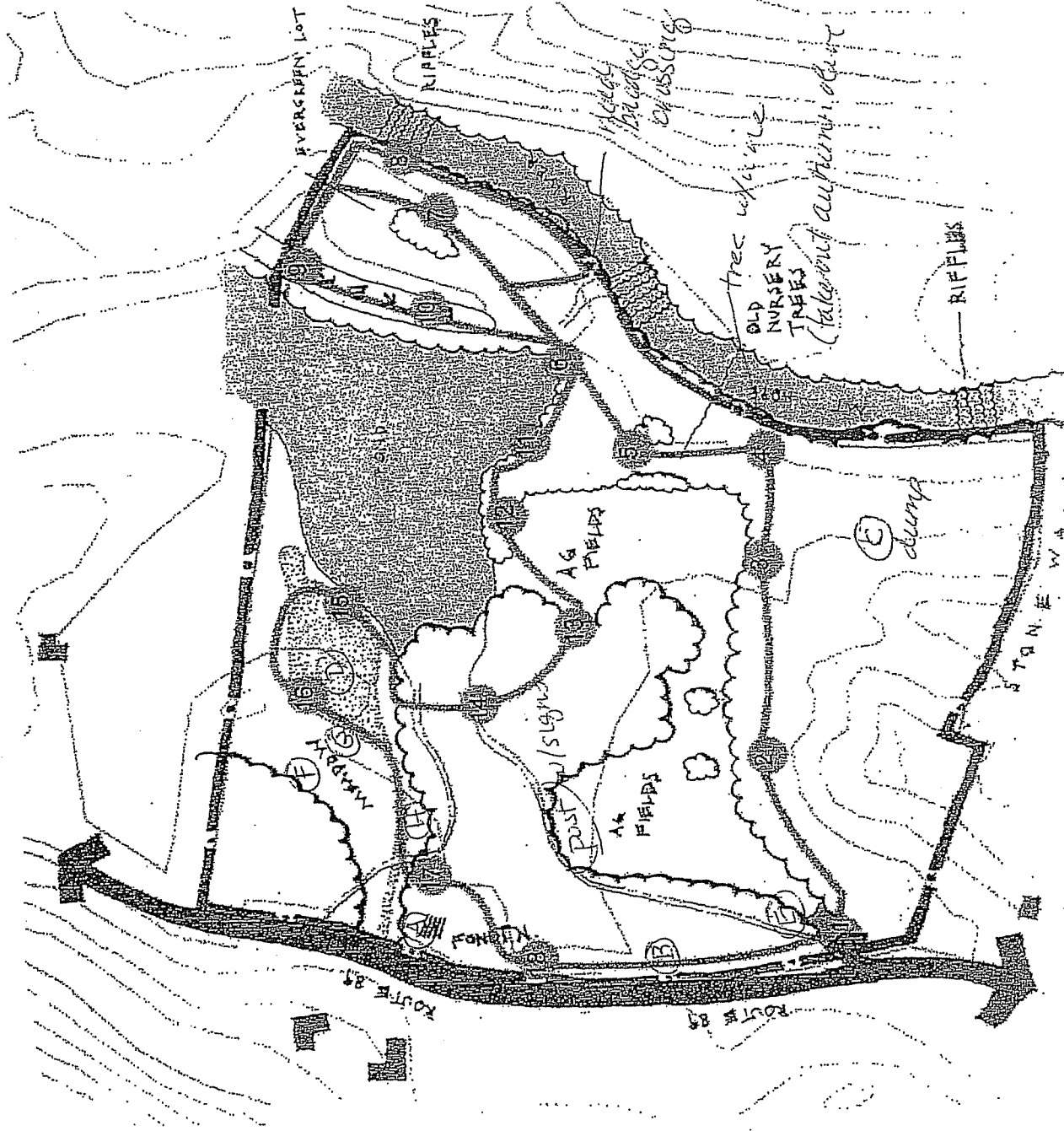
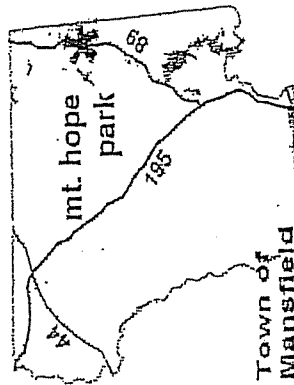
Approved By: _____
Date: _____

mt. hope park



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park location
Eastern side of Route 89, approximately
4.3 miles north of Route 195 & 3.1 miles
south of Route 44. Parking area & trail
head at southern edge of site.



Town of Mansfield CT Parks & Recreation Department NATURAL AREAS VOLUNTEERS

QUARTERLY SITE MANAGEMENT REPORT

NAME OF PRESERVE: Mt. Hope YEAR: 2004 QUARTER: 1 2 3 4 CHANGES in the PRESERVE SINCE LAST QUARTER: (circle number, also list number and describe on detail lines)

- LAND MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES: (circle number)
- 1 BRUSH CUTTING
 - 2 EXOTIC SPECIES CONTROL
 - 3 LITTER CLEANUP
 - 4 PLANTING or SEEDING
 - 5 MONITORING
 - 6 OTHER
- C1. invasive herbaceous plants
 - C2. invasive woody plants
 - C3. native plant populations
 - C4. tree mortality
 - C5. animal populations
 - C6. exotic animals
 - C7. erosion
 - C8. wind damage
 - C9. siltation
 - C10. flooding
 - C11. water level changes
 - C12. other

DATES	TYPE OF WORK (use # from above)	Number of workers*	Number of hours	TOTAL HOURS	DETAILS
5-21-04	5 plant survey + workday scouting.	1	2	2	Determined tasks for workday.
5-22-04	1 and 2	2	2	4	Removed small autumn olive, rose multifloras and J. Barberry from southern meadow and wetland trail entrance. Stump herbicided. Left brush pile out of sight in woods.

Other concerns for attention of NAV Coordinator: Still need park lot poles. Discovered large trash pile in wetland along southern meadow.

*List groups on detail lines. STEWARD J. Hasckell DATE 5-26-04

Natural Areas Volunteers
Town of Mansfield CT, Parks & Recreation Department

PROPOSED VOLUNTEER RESTORATION MANAGEMENT SCHEDULE

SITE MT.HOPE STEWARD I. Haskell
 YEAR 2004 Quarter (circle one) 1 2 3 4
 Volunteer Work Dates
 Other event

Map Symbol/ Plant Community	OBJECTIVE	METHOD	EXPECTED WORK DATE	DATE DONE
A. Parking lot	fix low area, install poles remove dead limbs and invasives	DPW brush clear, stump herbicide		
B.along road	litter pickup, remove invasives	DPW bag litter, brush clear and stump herbicide		
C.foundation area	remove invasives, fence and barbed wire	clear and stump herbicide		
D. wetland by south meadow	public education	construct nature center		
E. southern meadow	remove large trash dump	DPW		
F. northern meadow	keep open remove invasives and campfire ring	DPW mow in fall clear and stump herbicide, DPW mow in fall		
G. ford	clear path loop in no. meadow	clear and stump herbicide, DPW mow in fall		

Approved By: _____
 Date: _____

Town of Mansfield CT, Parks Office

PROPOSED RESTORATION MANAGEMENT SCHEDULE

Volunteer Work Dates
09/17 and 9/24
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SITE MT.HOPE
 YEAR 2005 Quarter (circle one) 1 2 3 4
 Prepared by J. Haskell

Other event 10/09/05

Map Symbol/ Plant Community	OBJECTIVE	METHOD	EXPECTED WORK DATE	DATE DONE
A. river trail	provide ravine crossing	high school senior project	fall 05	10/1
B. foundation area	remove invasives; fence, and barbed wire	brush clear, stump herbicide	09/17/05	10/1
C. pond area	public education	Walking Weekend program	10/09/05	10/9
D. nursery area	remove invasives	brush clear, stump herbicide	09/24/05	
E. meadow corner	remove brush piles	DPW haul away	December	10/1
F. Ag Field corner	remove brush piles	DPW haul away	December	
G. meadow portion	keep open	DPW mow with staff present	December	10/1

Comments: LMP PAC reviewed June 2, 2004.

Approved By: _____
 Date: _____